TD/B/1293 (Vol. I)

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Thirty-seventh session
Second part
(11-22 March 1991)

OFFICIAL RECORDS
Supplement No. 1

Resolutions and decisions

UNITED NATIONS

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Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

The arabic and roman numerals identifying resolutions and decisions indicate, respectively, the number of the resolution or decision and the number of the session at which it was adopted.

The resolutions and decisions of the Trade and Development Board are numbered in the order of their adoption.

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For the recommendations, resolutions, declarations and decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, see:

First session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*, vol. I, *Final Act and Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 64.II.B.11), pp. 18-65;

Second session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Second Session*, vol. I and Corr.1 and 3 and Add.1 and 2, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.II.D.14), annex I, A, pp. 28-58;

Third session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Third Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.4), annex I, A, pp. 53-114;

Fourth session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session*, vol. I and Corr.1, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-43;

Fifth session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fifth Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-50;

Sixth session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Sixth Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.D.6), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-40;

Seventh session: *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Seventh Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.II.D.1), part one, sect. A, pp. 6-27.

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RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

at the second part of its thirty-seventh session

RESOLUTIONS

389 (XXXVII). United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990: UNCTAD's intergovernmental input into the General Assembly's final review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action in 1991[1]

The Trade and Development Board,

Recalling its decision 372 (XXXVI) of 13 October 1989,

Having undertaken its final review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 43/27 of 18 November 1988 and 45/178 A of 19 December 1990,

Noting with appreciation the contribution of UNCTAD, and noting also with appreciation funds provided by UNDP and other donors, in the implementation of the Programme of Action, notably the expansion of UNCTAD's technical assistance programmes for African countries,

Further noting with appreciation the documentation[2] prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat in this process,

Acknowledging that the Programme of Action helped mobilize both African countries and the international community in the pursuit of policies and actions for Africa's economic recovery and development,

Recognizing Africa's primary responsibility for formulating and implementing effective economic and social policies towards achieving the objectives of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the international community's commitment to provide the necessary support for Africa's efforts towards economic recovery and development based on mutually reinforcing action and partnership,

Noting with satisfaction the courageous and persistent efforts exerted by most African countries in adopting and implementing structural adjustment programmes and reform policies, in spite of their social costs,

Reaffirming the continuing need in Africa for human resource mobilization and development and institutional capacity building, as well as encouraging the role and participation of women and youth, particularly those living in the rural areas, in the development process,

Noting with concern the stagnation in international resource flows to Africa in real terms, the decline in foreign direct investment, and the continued depressed market conditions for Africa's major export commodities,

Noting that a number of international debt initiatives have been taken, however noting also with concern that the debt burden remains a major impediment to recovery and development in Africa,

Bearing in mind problems of environmental degradation and recurring natural disasters in many parts of the continent,

Reaffirming the importance of subregional and regional integration as well as economic and technical cooperation in the process of African economic recovery and development,

Recognizing that a four-year period is a short span for dealing with economic recovery and transformation in Africa and that the attainment of the objectives of the Programme of Action require long-term planning, effective economic policies, and enhanced international support,

1. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of African countries for their economic recovery and development in an environment which offers equal opportunities to all people, both men and women, to participate fully in the development process;

2. *Commends* African countries which are undertaking courageous efforts to implement necessary reforms and structural adjustment measures, and urges them to persist with reform policies;

3. *Urges* that structural adjustment policies supported by the international financial institutions should take into account longer-term developmental objectives

[1] For a statement made by the representative of the United States of America in connection with the adoption of this resolution, see the report of the Board on the second part of its thirty-seventh session (hereinafter referred to as the "report of the Board") (*Official Records of the Trade and Development Board, Thirty-seventh session, Second part, Supplement No. 1A (Part II)* (TD/B/1293 (Vol. II)), chap. IV, para. 411.

[2] See, in particular, TD/B/1279 and TD/B/1280 and Add.1.

and seek to ensure a positive social impact while securing basic needs such as nutrition, health, education and infrastructure;

4. *Calls upon* African countries, in the implementation of structural adjustment and reform programmes, including those in partnership with international institutions and individual donors, to take into account their environmental and overall developmental objectives, as well as technological and financial needs;

5. *Reaffirms* the continuing commitment of the international community to support the efforts and policies of African countries in the pursuit of the objectives of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990;

6. *Urges* the international community to pursue its efforts to provide additional resource support for the objectives of the Programme of Action in the future and, in particular, to provide additional resource flows, especially official development assistance in real terms and to encourage the increased flow of foreign direct investment into Africa; appropriate measures should continue to be intensified by African countries to provide an enabling environment for increased and productive foreign direct investment;

7. *Stresses* the need, in accordance with its resolution 388 (XXXVII) of 17 October 1990, for continuing and concerted efforts in the context of international debt initiatives towards comprehensive and effective debt relief measures for African countries;

8. *Calls upon* all countries, especially major trading partners, to improve access for Africa's commodity exports to their markets, especially in their semi-processed and processed forms;

9. *Urges* the international community to continue to strengthen its support for Africa's diversification efforts;

10. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts undertaken by African countries to achieve subregional and regional integration and economic and technical cooperation, and calls upon the international community to support these efforts;

11. *Emphasizes* that any assessment of the Programme of Action and related statistics, information and studies should cover the whole of developing Africa;

12. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD for the arrangements made within the secretariat and the effective efforts made to enhance UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to continue, within his mandate, his efforts to provide assistance to African countries, including continued analysis and research relating to problems of interest to Africa, as well as technical cooperation programmes in Africa and to ensure that UNCTAD's needs-appraisal missions will cover all regions of Africa;

14. *Requests* the international community, especially donor countries and institutions, to provide additional voluntary resource support for UNCTAD's technical and other programmes of assistance for Africa;

15. *Recommends* to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly, taking into account the foregoing, to consider the continuation of African and international efforts within the objectives defined in the Programme of Action.

788th meeting
22 March 1991

390 (XXXVII). Review of the progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The Trade and Development Board,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/206 of 21 December 1990 endorsing the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[3]

Emphasizing the prime objective of the Programme of Action and the basic principles laid down in the Programme of Action as the basis for action by the least developed countries and their development partners,

Recalling the solemn commitment of the international community, as contained in the Paris Declaration,[4] to implement the Programme of Action throughout the 1990s,

Stressing that successful implementation of the Programme of Action will depend on shared responsibility and strengthened partnership for growth and development of the least developed countries,

Expressing deep concern at the adverse consequences of unforeseen external developments on the economies of the least developed countries,

Noting with serious concern the deteriorated resource situation of the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries,

1. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Government and the people of France for acting as host to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, as well as for their gracious hospitality, excellent arrangements and important contribution to the outcome of the Conference;

2. *Emphasizes* the imperative need for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s by all parties as a matter of urgency;

3. *Takes note* of the recent *Least Developed Countries—1990 Report*,[5] prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat, as well as of the initial steps being taken by it

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[3] See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18).

[4] Ibid.

[5] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.II.D.3.

pursuant to its mandate concerning follow-up, monitoring and review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, including arrangements for the annual review by the Trade and Development Board, and, in this regard, requests all Governments and organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to extend all necessary cooperation to UNCTAD in implementing its mandate;

4. *Takes note* of the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 45/206 to strengthen the UNCTAD secretariat's Special Programme for the least developed countries and to provide it with sufficient resources, and emphasizes in this context the need for expeditious implementation of this decision;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in the context of making necessary links between follow-up at the national and global levels, to participate in and contribute to the country review process, and to report thereon to the Board, as appropriate;

6. *Calls upon* donor Governments and other donors, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, including, as appropriate, by the use of its Special Measures Fund through further contributions to it, as well as other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, effectively to support the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD for least developed countries and in this context expresses deep appreciation to the Governments of Italy and the Netherlands for their assistance through the UNCTAD secretariat for this purpose;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the initiative of the Government of Japan to hold a seminar, in collaboration with the United Nations Capital Development Fund, on the development problems of least developed countries in the 1990s, in Tokyo in May 1991;

8. *Urges* all Governments, international and multilateral organizations, regional integration organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations to continue to pay special attention to the problems of the least developed countries and, in this context, urges their development partners to provide support and assistance to the least developed countries, according to the prevailing external circumstances, with a view to mitigating the adverse consequences of unforeseen developments on their economies;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to present a report to the Conference at its eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

788th meeting
22 March 1991

391 (XXXVII). Date and venue of the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The Trade and Development Board,

Recalling its decision 381 (XXXVI) of 23 March 1990 and General Assembly resolution 45/205 of 21 December 1990,

1. *Takes note* of the communication[6] circulated by the Uruguayan authorities on 29 January 1991, and expresses its full understanding of the difficulties encountered by the Government of Uruguay to host the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Welcomes with deep appreciation* the offer made by the Government of Colombia to host the eighth session of the Conference in Cartagena de Indias as from 1 February 1992;

3. *Agrees*, in the light of the above, that the Conference should take place in Cartagena de Indias from 8 to 25 February 1992, preceded by a two-day Senior Officials Meeting from 6 to 7 February 1992;

4. *Decides* to recommend to the General Assembly at its resumed forty-fifth session that the eighth session of the Conference be convened from 8 to 25 February 1992 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.

788th meeting
22 March 1991

[6] For a statement made by the representative of Colombia in connection with the adoption of this resolution, see the report of the Board, chap. III, para. 327.

392 (XXXVII). Review of the calendar of meetings

The Trade and Development Board

Approves the calendar of meetings for the first half of 1991[7] and agrees that the draft calendar for the second half of 1991 and the draft schedules of meetings for 1992 and 1993[8] shall be remitted to the informal group on calendar matters, which will report to the consultative machinery established under Board decision 143 (XVI) and Board resolution 231 (XXII).

788th meeting
22 March 1991

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[7] TD/B/INF.179. For the dates for the first part of the seventeenth special session of the Trade and Development Board as amended, see paragraph 13 below.

[8] TD/B/L.913 and UNCTAD/PSM/CAS/296, as amended orally. See the report of the Board, chapter IX, section L.

OTHER DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD

at the second part of its thirty-seventh session

(*a*) Adoption of the report on credentials

1. At its 788th meeting, on 22 March 1991, the Board adopted the report[9] submitted by its Bureau on the credentials of all representatives attending the session.

(*b*) (i) Previsional agenda for the first part of the thirty-eighth session of the Board

(ii) Provisional agenda for the seventeenth special session of the Board

2. Also at its 788th meeting, the Board approved the provisional agenda for the first part of its thirty-eighth session[10] and for its seventeenth special session respectively.[11]

3. In accordance with past practice, the Board authorized the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in consultation with the President, to adjust and complete the provisional agenda in the light of developments. This arrangement was on the understanding that any amendments or additions would be subject to consultations with the representatives of regional groups and interested member States within the framework of the consultative machinery established by its decision 143 (XVI) and its resolution 231 (XXII). The Board also requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to consult delegations regarding the organization of work of the sessions and to circulate his suggestions thereon.

(*c*) Reports of subsidiary and other bodies

4. At its 784th meeting, on 12 March 1991, the Board took note of the report[12] of the Committee on Commodities on its fourteenth session (18-20 November 1990) and endorsed the agreed conclusions 26 (XIV)[13] therein.

5. The Board's attention was drawn in particular to the issues to be explored during the preparatory process for UNCTAD VIII and at the Conference itself; to the recommendation[14] by the Committee that the question of diversification, processing, marketing, and distribution be a separate item on the agenda for the Committee's fifteenth session and that the session be for nine working days; and to the Committee's action, pursuant to Board decision 379 (S-XVI) on export earnings shortfalls and compensatory financing and, pursuant to Board decision 384 (XXXVII), on sustainable development.

(*d*) Designation of the President of the thirty-eighth session of the Board

6. Also at its 788th meeting, the Board took note that, in accordance with the cycle for the rotation of the Office of President of the Board, the President at the thirty-eighth session should be a representative of one of the States contained in List D in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX). The Board also took note that, in the light of consultations held, and in a spirit of understanding and flexibility, it had been agreed that, at the thirty-eighth session of the Board, the Presidency would be assumed by a representative of one of the African States in List A and that, at the thirty-ninth session, the Office of President would revert to one of the States in List D. The Board further took note that the rapporteur at the thirty-eighth session would be a representative of one of the States in List C.

7. In the light of the above, the Board designated Mr. Thomas Ogada (Kenya) as President of the Board at its thirty-eighth session.

(*e*) Treatment of new States members of UNCTAD for purposes of elections

8. At its 782nd meeting, on 11 March 1991, the Board took note that no applications for membership of the Conference had been received and further noted that the membership of UNCTAD remained unchanged at 166.

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[9] TD/B/1292.

[10] See the report of the Board, annex II.

[11] See the report of the Board, annex III.

[12] TD/B/1281.

[13] Ibid., annex I.

[14] Ibid., para. 13.

(f) Announcement of any changes in the membership of the Board and election to membership of main Committees

9. Also at the 782nd meeting, the Board took note that its membership remained unchanged at 130. The Board further confirmed the composition of its main Committees.[15]

(g) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

10. At its 784th meeting, the Board approved the applications of the following three intergovernmental organizations for designation under rule 76 of the rules of procedure: the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the ACP-EEC Joint Assembly and the Common Fund for Commodities.

(h) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

11. Also at its 784th meeting, the Board took note that no new applications for designation for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure had been received. The Board further noted that the International Shipowners' Association had ceased to exist and had been deleted from the list of non-governmental organizations in status with UNCTAD.

(i) Other action

12. At its 786th meeting, on 15 March 1991, the Board decided that a summary of its deliberations under item 6 of its agenda at the current session, together with the note[16] submitted by the UNCTAD secretariat, should be transmitted by the President to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session.

13. At its 788th meeting, in adopting resolution 391 (XXXVII) on the date and venue of UNCTAD VIII, the Board also endorsed proposals for the preparatory process for UNCTAD VIII whereby the following timing was agreed: first part of the seventeenth special session of the Board: 24-26 June 1991; first part of the thirty-eighth session of the Board: 23 September to 4 October 1991; ad hoc preparatory mechanism(s) of the seventeenth special session of the Board: intermittent in October and November 1991; second part of the seventeenth special session of the Board: 2-11 December 1991.

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[15] See TD/B/INF.178/Rev.1.

[16] TD/B/1287.

Annex

AGENDA FOR THE SECOND PART OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

as adopted by the Board at its 782nd meeting, on 11 March 1991

1. Procedural matters:
   - (*a*) Election of the President of the Trade and Development Board;
   - (*b*) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session;
   - (*c*) Adoption of the report on credentials;
   - (*d*) Provisional agenda for the first part of the thirty-eighth session of the Board;
   - (*e*) Provisional agenda for the seventeenth special session of the Board;
   - (*f*) Designation of the President of the thirty-eighth session of the Board.
2. Protectionism and structural adjustment and, in conjunction therewith, outcome of the Uruguay Round on developments and issues of particular concern to the developing countries, in accordance with paragraph 105 (8) of the Final Act of the Conference at its seventh session.
3. Preparations for the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
4. United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990: UNCTAD's intergovernmental input into the General Assembly's final review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action in 1991.
5. Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries:

   UNCTAD's contribution to the follow-up of the Programme of Action.
6. Other matters in the field of trade and development:

   Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries (Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/54).
7. Other matters requiring action by the Board arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies:

   Committee on Commodities.
8. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
   - (*a*) Treatment of new States members of UNCTAD for purposes of elections;
   - (*b*) Announcement of any changes in the membership of the Board and election to membership of main Committees;
   - (*c*) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;
   - (*d*) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board;
   - (*e*) Review of the calendar of meetings;
   - (*f*) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the Board.

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